

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 /011 R

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DESIRED DISTRIBUTION: S/S, NSCE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 234260

EXDIS TOSEC 79

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE, INFO MOSCOW, OCT 24, FROM
ADDIS ABABA RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 12761

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS PFOR ET US

SUBJ: GENERAL AMAN'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL
MILITARY ASSISTANCE

REFS: (A) STATE 222159 (NOTAL)

(B) ADDIS 12337

(C) ADDIS 12623 (NOTAL)

1. VICE MINISTER OF DEFENSE MULATU HAS INFORMED MAAG
OFFICER THAT GENERAL AMAN WAS VERY ANGRY IN A MEETING
THIS MORNING BECAUSE HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED A REPLY
TO HIS OCTOBER 7 MESSAGE TO THE SECRETARY (REFTEL A).
MULATU SAID GENERAL AMAN ALSO FEELS STRONGLY THAT AS
HEAD OF STATE HE SHOULD RECEIVE A RESPONSE FROM THE
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SECRETARY RATHER THAN FROM UNDER SECRETARY SISCO.

2. COMMENT. WE HAVE REPORTED VARIOUS INDICATIONS THAT THE AFCC IS WEIGHING THE BASIC MILITARY PRO-CUREMENT AND FOREIGN POLICY OPTIONS OPEN TO ETHIOPIA AT PRESENT. GENERAL AMAN'S ANGER PROBABLY REFLECTS NOT ONLY THE NEED FOR A REPLY IN THIS CONTEXT BUT ALSO HIS OWN PREFERENCE THAT ETHIOPIA CONTINUE TO REPLY FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE ON THE US ALONE. THE MILITARY RADICALS MAY BE PUSHING PARTICULARLY HARD AT PRESENT FOR THE SOVIET OPTION (CF. REFTEL C). WE KNOW THEY HAVE BEEN CITING THE CONTINUING ABSENCE OF AN AMERICAN AMBASSADOR AS EVIDENCE OF USG PARTIALITY TO THE OLD ORDER. WYMAN UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE234260
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:GTWOHIE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740305-0622
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741019/aaaaapru.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: (A) STATE 222159 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GENERAL AMAN'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, ET, US
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005